

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A program processing apparatus, comprising:

electronic program guide acquisition means for acquiring
an electronic program guide;

5 condition determination means for determining a condition
of each of programs to be displayed on the electronic program
guide;

electronic program guide displaying means for displaying
the electronic program guide in a display form wherein the
10 electronic program guide reflects the conditions of the programs
determined by said condition determination means; and

program processing means operable in response to
selection, by a user, of one of the programs included in the
electronic program guide displayed by said electronic program
15 guide displaying means for executing a program process in
accordance with the condition of the selected program.

2. A program processing system for performing a program
process using an electronic program guide, comprising:

a program processing apparatus for executing a program
20 process; and

an electronic program guide preparation server for
preparing an electronic program guide;

said electronic program guide preparation server
including reception means for receiving data regarding programs
25 through a communication network, determination means for
determining a condition of each of the programs based on the

data regarding the programs, electronic program guide preparation means for preparing an electronic program guide of a modified display form wherein a selection section for performing a process in accordance with the condition of each
5 of the programs is displayed, and transmission means for transmitting the prepared electronic program guide to said program processing apparatus;

said program processing apparatus including electronic program guide displaying means for displaying the electronic
10 program guide received through said communication network and program processing means operable in response to selection of one of the selection sections displayed on the electronic program guide for executing a program process corresponding to the selected selection section.

15 3. A program processing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said electronic program guide preparation server determines whether or not an electronic program guide should be distributed to said program processing apparatus based on a privacy level of information sent thereto from said program
20 processing apparatus.

4. A program processing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein a consideration which differs depending upon a privacy level of information sent from said program processing apparatus is imposed for distribution of an electronic program guide from
25 said electronic program guide preparation server to said program processing apparatus.

5. A program processing system for performing a program process using an electronic program guide, comprising:

a program processing apparatus for executing a program process; and

5 an electronic program guide preparation server for preparing an electronic program guide;

said electronic program guide preparation server including electronic program guide preparation means for preparing an electronic program guide in which a link to be
10 handled by said program processing apparatus is embedded and transmission means for transmitting the electronic program guide prepared by said electronic program guide preparation means;

said program processing apparatus including displaying
15 means for displaying an electronic program guide of a display form modified based on the conditions of the programs to be displayed on the electronic program guide received from said electronic program guide preparation server and program processing means for executing a program process in accordance
20 with the conditions of the programs using the link embedded in the electronic program guide in accordance with an instruction of a user.

6. A program processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said electronic program guide preparation server
25 determines whether or not an electronic program guide should be distributed to said program processing apparatus based on

a privacy level of information sent thereto from said program processing apparatus.

7. A program processing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein a consideration which differs depending upon a privacy
5 level of information sent from said program processing apparatus is imposed for distribution of an electronic program guide from said electronic program guide preparation server to said program processing apparatus.

8. A program processing system for performing a program
10 process using an electronic program guide, comprising:

a program processing apparatus for executing a program process; and

an electronic program guide preparation server for preparing an electronic program guide;

15 said program processing apparatus including reception means for receiving an electronic program guide from said electronic program guide preparation server and displaying means for preparing an electronic program guide of a display form modified in accordance with the conditions of the programs
20 to be displayed on the electronic program guide and displaying the prepared electronic program guide.

9. A program processing system as claimed in claim 8, wherein said electronic program guide preparation server determines whether or not an electronic program guide should
25 be distributed to said program processing apparatus based on a privacy level of information sent thereto from said program

processing apparatus.

10. A program processing system as claimed in claim 8,
wherein a consideration which differs depending upon a privacy
level of information sent from said program processing apparatus
5 is imposed for distribution of an electronic program guide from
said electronic program guide preparation server to said program
processing apparatus.

11. A program for causing a computer to execute the steps
of:

10 receiving an electronic program guide regarding a program
through a communication network;

determining a condition of each of programs based on data
regarding the programs;

15 preparing an electronic program guide of a modified
display form wherein a selection section for performing a process
in accordance with the condition of each of the programs is
displayed; and

transmitting the prepared electronic program guide toward
the communication network.

20 12. A program for causing a computer to execute the steps
of:

receiving an electronic program guide through a
communication network;

25 displaying the received electronic program guide; and
executing a program process in response to selection of
one of the selection sections displayed on the electronic program

guide.